WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of packet assembly in a wireless transmission system, comprising the steps of:

sampling at least first and second packets of a plurality of packets; calculating respective throughput times for each of said first and second

5 packets; and

consolidating said first and second packets into a third packet if the sum of said corresponding throughput times exceeds a predetermined limit.

- 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of packets in the sampling step conform to an IEEE 802.11 standard.
- 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said predetermined limit is a throughput time of said third packet in the consolidating step.
- 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said throughput time of said third packet is less than said combined throughput times of said first and second packets.
- 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein said throughput time includes an assembly time and a disassembly time of said packet.
- 6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said throughput time includes a data packet time, a SIFS time, a DIFS time, and an average back-off time of said corresponding packet.
- 7. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of consolidating is performed in an ad hoc network topology.

5

- 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of consolidating is performed in an infrastructure network topology.
- 9. The method of Claim 1, wherein more than two packets are sampled in the step of sampling and consolidated into a consolidated packet in the step of consolidating when the sum of said corresponding throughput times exceeds said predetermined limit.
- 10. A packet assembly apparatus in a wireless transmission system, comprising:
 a sampler for sampling at least first and second packets of a plurality of packets; and
- a processor for calculating respective throughput times for each of said first and second packets;

wherein a third packet is generated by consolidating said first and second packets if the sum of said corresponding throughput times exceeds a predetermined limit.

- 11. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said plurality of packets conform to an IEEE 802.11 standard.
- 12. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said predetermined limit is a throughput time of said third packet.
- 13. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said throughput time of said third packet is less than said combined throughput times of said first and second packets.
- 14. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said throughput time includes an assembly time and a disassembly time of said packet.

- 15. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein said throughput time includes a data packet time, a SIFS time, a DIFS time, and an average back-off time of said corresponding packet.
- 16. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein consolidation of said first and second packets is performed in an ad hoc network topology.
- 17. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein consolidation of said first and second packets is performed in an infrastructure network topology.
- 18. The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein more than two packets are sampled by said sampler and consolidated into a consolidated packet when the sum of said corresponding throughput times exceeds said predetermined limit.